



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
HABITAT PROGRAM/OLYMPIA FIELD OFFICE
510 Desmond Drive SE/Suite 103
LACEY, WASHINGTON 98503

May 13, 1999

U.S. EPA Region 10
MAY 17 1999
OFFICE OF WATER

Marcia Lagerloef
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 Sixth Ave.
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: Species List Request for Phase I Water Quality Standards consultation

Dear Marcia:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has received your April 15, 1999 faxed letter requesting a list of threatened and endangered species that may be found in the waters of the State of Washington. Enclosed is a list of those anadromous fish species and marine mammals and turtles that are listed as threatened or endangered, those that are proposed for listing, and those that are candidates under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This inventory only includes those species under NMFS' jurisdiction. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be contacted regarding the status of those proposed, threatened, and endangered species under their jurisdiction.

NMFS has responsibility for the protection and enhancement of marine, estuarine and anadromous fishery resources and their habitats. At present, there are numerous listed fish species through the state of Washington. Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) are listed as endangered in the Upper Columbia River, and threatened in the Middle and Lower Columbia River and Snake River. Sockeye (*O. nerka*) are listed as endangered for the Snake River and threatened in Lake Ozette. Chum salmon (*O. keta*) are listed as threatened in both the Columbia and Hood Canal. Chinook (*O. tshawytscha*) are listed as endangered in the Upper Columbia River. Fall and spring chinook runs are listed as threatened in the Snake River, as well as listed as threatened in Puget Sound and the Lower Columbia River.

There are also a few proposed and candidate anadromous species throughout the State of Washington. Coastal cutthroat trout (*O. clarki clarki*) were recently proposed for listing in Southwest Washington and the Columbia River. In addition, Puget Sound chinook critical habitat is proposed to be listed in March 2000. Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*) in Puget Sound/Strait of Georgia and in Southwest Washington and the Columbia River are candidate species. Although candidate species are not afforded protection under the ESA, it would be prudent to incorporate features into the proposed action that avoid or minimize impacts to this anadromous fish resources should it become listed at a later date.


Other threatened and endangered species under NMFS' jurisdiction that could be present in marine waters of Washington state are the stellar sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*), the humpback whale (*Megaptera novaengliae*), and the leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*). A list of



threatened and endangered marine mammals and sea turtles that could be present in the project vicinity is also enclosed. This letter constitutes the required notification of the presence of any federally listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under NMFS' jurisdiction in the area that may be affected by the proposed project (Appendix A to Part 330, Section C.13(5)(i)).

Thank you for your inquiry for information pertaining to federally listed threatened and endangered species. Should you require additional information, please contact Rachel Friedman-Thomas at (360) 753-4063, by email at rachel.friedman-thomas@noaa.gov, or at the letterhead address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven W. Landino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S".

Steven W. Landino
Washington State Habitat Branch Chief

Enclosures

cc: Rachel Friedman-Thomas, NMFS

ESA STATUS - WASHINGTON STATE ANADROMOUS SALMONIDS - APRIL 1999

Species	(E=endangered, T=threatened, Date is for FR publication)		
	Listed	Proposed	Candidate
Coho (<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>)	None	None	1) Puget Snd/St. of Georgia (7/95) 2) SW WA/L. Col. R. (7/95)
Steelhead (<i>O. mykiss</i>)	1) Upper Col. R. (E - 8/97) 2) Snake R. (T - 8/97) 3) Lower Col. R. (T - 3/98) 4) Middle Col. R. (T - 3/99)	None	None
Chum (<i>O. keta</i>)	1) Hood Canal Summer (T-3/99) 2) Columbia River (T-3/99)	None	None
Chinook (<i>O. tshawytscha</i>)	1) Snake R. fall (T - 4/92) 2) Snake R. spg/smmr (T - 4/92) 3) Upper Col. R. Spring (E - 3/99) 4) Puget Sound (T - 3/99) 5) Lower Col. R. (T-3/99)	None	None
Sockeye (<i>O. nerka</i>)	1) Snake R. (E - 11/91) 2) Ozette Lake (T - 3/99)	None	None
Pink (<i>O. gorbuscha</i>)	None	None	None
Sea-run Cutthroat (<i>O. clarki clarki</i>)	None	1) SW Wash/Col River (T-4/99)	None

NOTE: Listing rules announced on 3/24-25/99 will become effective 60 days after Federal Register publishing.

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED MARINE MAMMALS
AND SEA TURTLES
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
THAT MAY OCCUR OFF WASHINGTON AND OREGON

MARINE MAMMALS

Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>
Steller Sea Lion	<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>

MARINE TURTLES

Leatherback Sea Turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>
Loggerhead Sea Turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED MARINE MAMMALS
AND SEA TURTLES
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
THAT MAY OCCUR IN THE PUGET SOUND

MARINE MAMMALS

Humpback Whales	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>
Steller Sea Lion	<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>

MARINE TURTLES

Leatherback Sea Turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>
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United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
United States Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

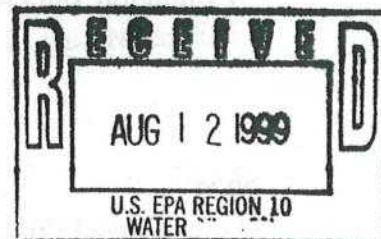


Fish and Wildlife Service
510 Desmond Drive S.E., Suite 102
Lacey, Washington 98503

National Marine Fisheries Service
510 Desmond Drive S.E., Suite 103
Lacey, Washington 98503

JUL 29 1999

Marcia Lagerloef
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 Sixth Ave.
Seattle, WA 98101



Re: Consultation on Water Quality Standards

Dear Ms. Lagerloef:

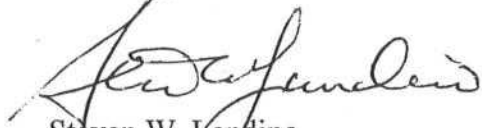
The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) received your letter requesting a list of threatened and endangered species that may be found in the waters of the state of Washington. The species list request letter pertained to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 7 consultation on Washington State water quality standards revisions that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved on February 6, 1998, (Phase I). The EPA's conditional approval recognized that the section 7 consultation "might necessitate... reconsideration of the approval action".

We are aware that the state of Washington is currently involved in another revision of their water quality standards (Phase II) and is intending to adopt a final rule by the end of 1999. At present they are poised to release numerous technical documents for review, and will be developing draft rule language during the summer/fall of 1999. We plan to be involved early in this effort in order to improve on the process that is currently ongoing with the section 7 consultation for the state of Oregon water quality standards.

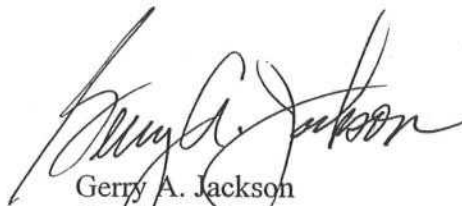
In an effort to gain efficiencies for our already over-taxed resources, and given that NMFS and the FWS will be participating in the Phase II review, we recommend a delay of the Phase I section 7 consultation. We propose combining Phases I and II into a single section 7 consultation which captures all issues related to all species of concern at one time. This approach appears to be in everyone's best interest.

We would like to hear from you on the approach you believe to be most efficient to conduct the section 7 consultations for both Phases I and II. Please contact Rachel Friedman at (360) 753-4063, and Denise Baker at (360) 753-5821 with questions and comments.

Sincerely,



Steven W. Landino
Washington State Habitat Branch Chief
National Marine Fisheries Service



Gerry A. Jackson
Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Western Washington Office

db/vr

c: Rachel Friedman, NMFS
Denise Baker, FWS